

BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF THE BUFFALO FAIR BUILDINGS.

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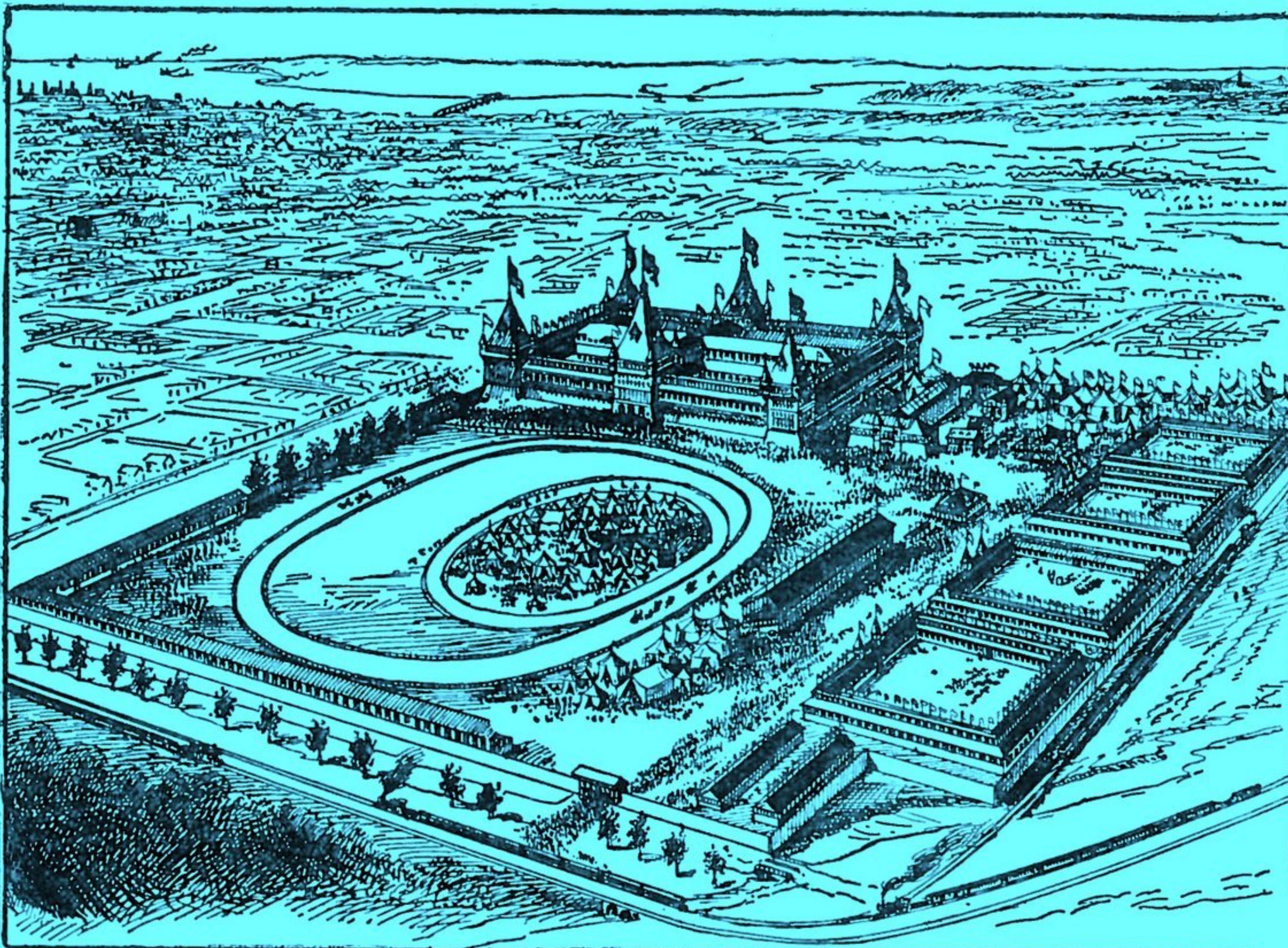
Buffalo is becoming famous for the great fair which is held in the city each year. In 1888 the fair attracted over a half-million visitors. This year the International Fair, which will be open from September 3 to September 13, promises to attract a still larger number of visitors. The railroads, surprised as they were at the enormous amount of business which the Fair brought to them last September, have of their own accord made exceedingly liberal rates this year and are taking the necessary steps to accommodate an enormous amount of travel. To those readers who attended the fair last year it is only necessary to point out the fact that a number of new buildings have been erected and that a large sum of money is being expended upon the Fair grounds, in order to excite greatly increased interest in the forthcoming exposition. They will remember the impression which was made upon their minds as they entered the ground last year and will no doubt wonder at the enterprise which, not being satisfied with the completeness of the Fair a year ago, has led to an increase in its facilities for entertaining the public.

The Art Gallery, adorned as it was last year with one of the greatest of all modern paintings and with its walls thickly hung with hundreds of canvasses of the most eminent American painters, must have seemed to the average visitor as complete and perfect an institution of the kind as could be expected at any fair or exposition. We find now that this gallery was but an L to the structure permanently designed for the inspection of fine arts. When the fair opens this year visitors will see an art gallery of which any city might be proud. Its architectural beauty is of itself entrancing, and in the building will be found a finer collection of paintings than was ever before gathered together in any city in this state outside of the city of New York. The list includes Makoffsky's "Russian Wedding Feast"; Munkacsy's "Last Hours of Mozart"; Poore's prize picture "The Night of the Nativity," and over four-hundred canvasses from the very best American painters.

As in the case of fine arts, so it is with all other departments of the exposition; facilities for display have been increased. It was thought last year that the horse show in connection with the International fair was the finest, largest and grandest show of the kind ever held in America; in fact that was the popular verdict concerning it. The managers of the Fair seem determined to out-do their previous effort even in this particular, for an additional horse-show building four-hundred feet square is being constructed. If one were to measure the lineal dimensions of the live-stock buildings already completed and being erected, he would be surprised at the number of acres covered by the same. There is no question that Buffalo has outstripped all competitive fairs in the importance of its live-stock features.

The Main Exposition building remains as it was last year the largest permanent Fair building in the world, and the applications for space which are daily being received leaves no room to doubt that its contents will be more interesting than before. At least two of the large courts in this building will be devoted to the purposes of a tobacco exhibition. No exposition of this great industry, which interests directly and indirectly so large a portion of the United States, has ever been attempted in the North. It was with difficulty that the managers of the fair succeeded in interesting southern growers and manufacturers of tobacco, but now that they are interested they seem determined to make their share of the fair a glowing success. Every thing pertaining to the tobacco industry, from the sprouting of the plant to its complete manufacture in the shape of cigars and cigarettes, will be illustrated. Some of the tobacco houses will have old plantation negroes on the scene enlivening the manufacture of the weed with melodies from their banjos and guitars.

Another important feature of the industrial portion of the fair will be a convention of inventors, who will exhibit all manner of curious working models. The machinery portion of the fair will not be neglected, although it has been found impossible this year to complete a separate machinery hall. In connection with this department it is interesting to know that the Lumberman's Exchange of Buffalo has offered a prize valued at \$100 for the best portable saw-mill in operation at the fair. Many other special prizes have been offered in various departments by individuals and societies. Much attention is being paid this year to the purely amusement features of the fair, and a great deal of healthy and exciting sport is promised through the races on the flat and the jumping contests and steeple-chases of hunting horses. Five well-known hardware firms of Buffalo offer a prize of \$100 open to hunting horses. As a new building is being erected for the executive offices of the fair, the spacious Queen Anne cottage which was used for office purposes last year will this year be turned into a cafe and restaurant. From the broad verandas of this cafe visitors to the fair will be able to enjoy the delightful open-air concerts, which will be furnished by Cappa's famous Seventh Regiment band, of New York, and to witness all the out of door sports and spectacles.



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Brian D. Szafranski
Elma, New York USA